

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 025499
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 IGA-02
OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 INRE-00 SSO-00 HA-05 EUR-12
USIE-00 /069 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/MEX:D.E.SIMCOX:MRG
APPROVED BY ARA/MEX:D.E.SIMCOX
ARA:R.ARELLANO (PHONE)
ARA/CEN:L.PFEIFLE
ARA/PPC:K.MARSHALL

-----105277 312049Z /72

O 311953Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 025499

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, MASS, MX, GT

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON POST REPORT ON F-5 SALES TO MEXICO

REF: DUNN-ARELLANO TELECON OF JANUARY 31

FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE OF DEPARTMENT
SPOKESMAN WITH REGARD TO WASHINGTON POST REPORT OF
JANUARY 31 ON F-5 SALES TO MEXICO AND GUATEMALA. ACTUAL
TRANSCRIPTS OF PRESS BRIEFING WILL BE PROVIDED SUBSEQUENTLY.

Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE REPORTS THAT MEXICO AND
GUATEMALA WANT TO BUY F-5'S FROM US?

A. I CAN CONFIRM THAT MEXICO AND GUATEMALA HAVE EX-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 025499

PRESSED INTEREST IN BUYING F-5'S. WE RECEIVED MANY RE-
QUESTS OF THIS TYPE AND THE DECISION TO SELL OR NOT TO
SELL IS BASED UPON THE RELATION OF THE PROPOSED SALE TO
OUR OVERALL ARMS TRANSFER POLICY AS EXPRESSED IN THE
PRESIDENT'S ARMS TRANSFER POLICY GUIDELINES OF MAY 19,
1977, AND UPON SUCH FACTORS AS THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY
SITUATION OF THE REQUESTING COUNTRY, THE IMPACT UPON THAT

COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE POSSIBLE IMPACT UPON THE REGIONAL ARMS BALANCE OR REGIONAL ARMS RACES, HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS, AND OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS

WITH THE REQUESTING COUNTRY. THESE POSSIBLE SALES ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR BOTH COUNTRIES. THE DECISION PROCESS IS NECESSARILY COMPLEX AND TIME-CONSUMING. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE A FINAL DECISION IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THE SALE TO GUATEMALA WILL BE HELD UP BECAUSE OF THE BELIZE DISPUTE?

A. THAT IS A FACTOR WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED, AMONG THE OTHERS I HAVE MENTIONED. I DON'T WANT TO SPECULATE ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF OUR DELIBERATIONS.

Q. WOULD THESE BE THE FIRST LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO HAVE THE F-5?

A. NO. CHILE AND BRAZIL HAVE THE F-5 AIRCRAFT AND VENEZUELA HAS THE CANADIAN VERSION CALLED THE CF-5.

Q. WHAT ABOUT OTHER SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT IN LATIN AMERICA?

A. A NUMBER OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAVE SUPERSONIC UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 025499

AIRCRAFT IN THEIR INVENTORIES, INCLUDING FRANCH MIRAGES, BRITISH-FRENCH JAGUARS AND SOVIET SU-22S.

Q. WHAT ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS?

A. AS I HAVE SAID THAT IS A FACTOR TO BE CONSIDERED. I DO NOT WANT TO COMMENT FURTHER AT THIS TIME.

Q. YOU HAVE SAID BOTH COUNTRIES ARE INTERESTED. HAVE THEY ACTUALLY REQUESTED THE AIRCRAFT?

A. I HAVE SAID THAT WE ARE CONSIDERING THE MATTER. FURTHER DETAILS ON THE STATUS OF THE REQUEST FROM EACH COUNTRY ENTERS INTO OUR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THOSE COUNTRIES AND I DON'T WANT TO COMMENT FURTHER UNTIL WE ARE MUCH CLOSER TO A DECISION.

VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE025499
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: D.E.SIMCOX:MRG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780046-0740
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978012/aaaaabce.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 283c09e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3709145
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WASHINGTON POST REPORT ON F-5 SALES TO MEXICO
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, SOPN, MX, GT, US, WASHINGTON POST
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/283c09e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014